Quiz 10 - Chapter 09   
Interest Groups: Organizing for Influence   
  
1. Which of the following is NOT a typical interest group function?   
A. supporting candidates for public office  
B. addressing a broad and diverse range of public issues  
C. working to influence policymakers  
D. promoting public policies  
E. working to influence legislators   
  
2. Economic groups have an advantage over noneconomic groups because   
A. they nearly always have larger memberships.  
B. they are organized primarily for political purposes.  
C. they have better leadership.  
D. they have greater access to financial resources.  
E. their members are committed to their causes.   
  
3. Some groups pursue collective goods. A collective good is one that   
A. cannot be selectively granted or denied to individuals; it must be shared.  
B. is provided by a public service organization.  
C. is secured by the president.  
D. is secured by Congress.  
E. None of these answers is correct.   
  
4. A basic reason for the existence of so many interest groups in the United States is   
A. the American tradition of free association.  
B. the extent of diverse interests in American society.  
C. America's federal system of government.  
D. the separation of powers in American government.  
E. All of these answers are correct.   
  
5. A purposive incentive is defined as   
A. a goal of direct economic gain.  
B. the opportunity to contribute to a worthy goal or purpose.  
C. a goal benefiting a specific group.  
D. any common purpose that brings groups together.  
E. corporate profit.   
  
6. Which of the following organizations is NOT an example of a single-issue group?   
A. Sierra Club  
B. National Rifle Association  
C. climate change groups  
D. right-to-life groups  
E. American Conservative Union   
  
7. The situation in which individuals are tempted not to contribute to a cause because they will get the benefits even if they do not participate is called the   
A. size factor.  
B. free-rider problem.  
C. special-interest paradox.  
D. disincentive factor.  
E. zero-sum game.   
  
8. Economist Mancur Olson refers to what aspect of interest groups as "the size factor"?   
A. Larger interest groups are able to draw on greater financial resources, which makes them more capable of getting the ear of lawmakers and thus achieving policy change.  
B. The interests of groups with large memberships would typically prevail over the interests of smaller groups.  
C. Small groups are ordinarily more united on policy issues and often have more resources, enabling them to win out more often than large groups.  
D. The smaller an interest group, the more likely that its motivating issue will be subsumed by the agenda of a larger interest group.  
E. Small interest groups can often enhance their bargaining power by linking themselves to the agenda of a larger interest group that has greater resources.   
  
9. Which citizens' group did a Fortune magazine survey rank as the nation's most powerful lobbying group?   
A. the NAACP  
B. the AFL-CIO  
C. the AARP  
D. MADD  
E. Common Cause   
  
  
  
  
10. Effective inside lobbying is based upon   
A. countering the aims of other groups.  
B. providing useful and persuasive information to key officials.  
C. mobilizing the group's members.  
D. bribing or threatening officials.  
E. using the media to exert pressure.   
  
11. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, what was roughly the amount spent on lobbying in the United States in 2009?   
A. $250 billion  
B. $10 billion  
C. $350 million  
D. $35 billion  
E. $3.5 billion   
  
12. In recent decades, lobbyists in Washington, D.C., have increasingly   
A. targeted the executive branch in their efforts to influence policy decisions.  
B. relied on coercive tactics, such as threats of withdrawing election support.  
C. worked to defeat incumbent members of Congress in order to replace them with members who would be more supportive.  
D. relied exclusively on inside lobbying as the means of achieving their policy goals.  
E. ignored the judicial branch as a means of influencing policy decisions.   
  
13. "Agency capture" occurs when   
A. a regulatory agency funnels money back into the lobbying organizations that are seeking policy changes.  
B. regulatory agencies side with the industries they are supposed to regulate rather than with the public.  
C. the executive branch takes back control of a regulatory agency.  
D. a regulatory agency must be dismantled because it has become corrupted.  
E. an election results in the replacement of an agency's leadership through appointive positions under a new president.   
  
14. The influence of interest groups through the courts occurs through   
A. initiating lawsuits.  
B. lobbying for certain judges to be appointed to the bench.  
C. outside lobbying only.  
D. PACs.  
E. both initiating lawsuits and lobbying for certain judges to be appointed to the bench.   
  
15. An amicus brief   
A. is a written document in which a group explains to a court its position on a legal dispute the court is handling.  
B. is a written document in which an interest group lays out its policy preference for targeted lawmakers.  
C. prevents a lobbyist group from making campaign donations to policy makers over a specific issue.  
D. provides evidence for prosecutors of an illegal monetary relationship between a lawmaker and an interest group or PAC.  
E. prevents PACs from donating more than $5,000 to a single candidate during a primary election.   
  
16. The term iron triangle refers to   
A. a tightly-knit set of lobbying groups.  
B. the relationship among the Congress, the military, and defense contractors.  
C. a small and informal but relatively stable set of bureaucrats, legislators, and lobbyists who are concerned with promoting a particular interest.  
D. the strategy of lobbying all three branches of government simultaneously.  
E. a corrupt relationship among the president, Congress, and the Supreme Court.   
  
17. The Supreme Court decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010)   
A. allows corporations and labor unions to spend unlimited funds on campaigns.  
B. limits PACs by reducing the amount of money they can raise through contributions by small donors.  
C. has forced candidates for office and elected officials to make public the amounts of campaign contributions they have received from PACs and which PACs make those donations.  
D. has strengthened the argument that PACs constitute a better system of campaign finance than one based on wealthy donors.  
E. has forced corporations and labor unions to legally divorce themselves from the PACs they sponsor.   
  
18. The Supreme Court ruling in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010) ultimately led to the creation of   
A. super PACs.  
B. PACs.  
C. election reform.  
D. independent-expenditure-committees (IECs).  
E. the AARP.   
  
19. The Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010) ruling held that super PAC spending   
A. must be coordinated with election campaigns.  
B. must not be coordinated with election campaigns.  
C. must go directly to election campaigns.  
D. must be preapproved by the Federal Election Commission.  
E. must be no more than $5,000 per federal candidate per election.   
  
20. A flaw in pluralism theory is the fact that   
A. the interest group system is unrepresentative, because some interests are far better organized and more powerful than others.  
B. the public interest is never served by policies that promote special interests.  
C. larger groups always prevail politically over smaller groups.  
D. political parties better represent different interests than do interest groups.  
E. All of these answers are correct. 